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AN EXHAUSTING DAY HAS COME TO AN END.

AN UNREWARDING PART-TIME JOB.
A MEANINGLESS DAILY ROUTINE.

A DAY LIKE ANY OTHER,
SOON TO DISAPPEAR QUIETLY
FROM MY MEMORIES.

BUT THAT DAY WAS DIFFERENT.

HM?

WHAT
IS THAT?

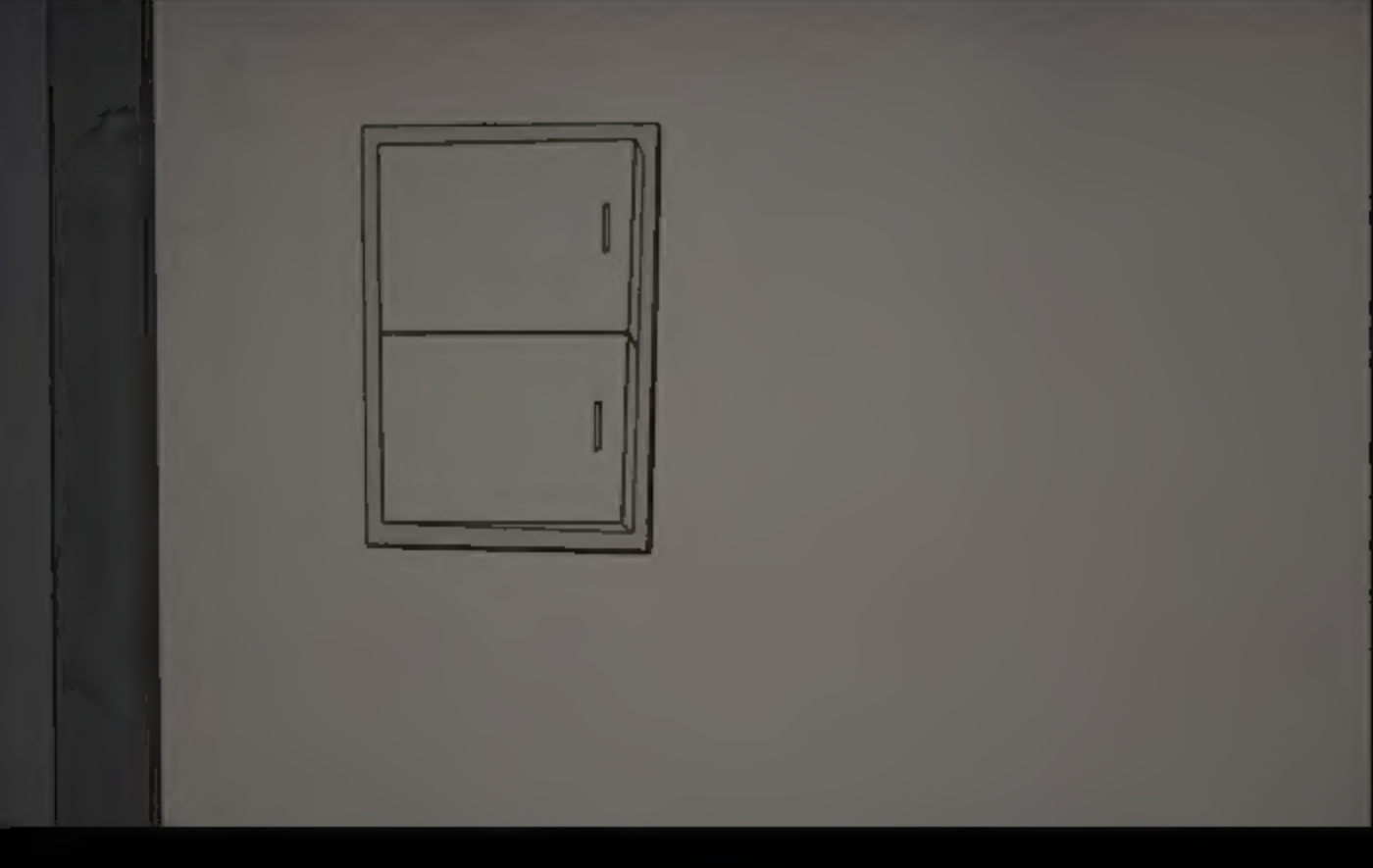
ON MY WAY BACK HOME,

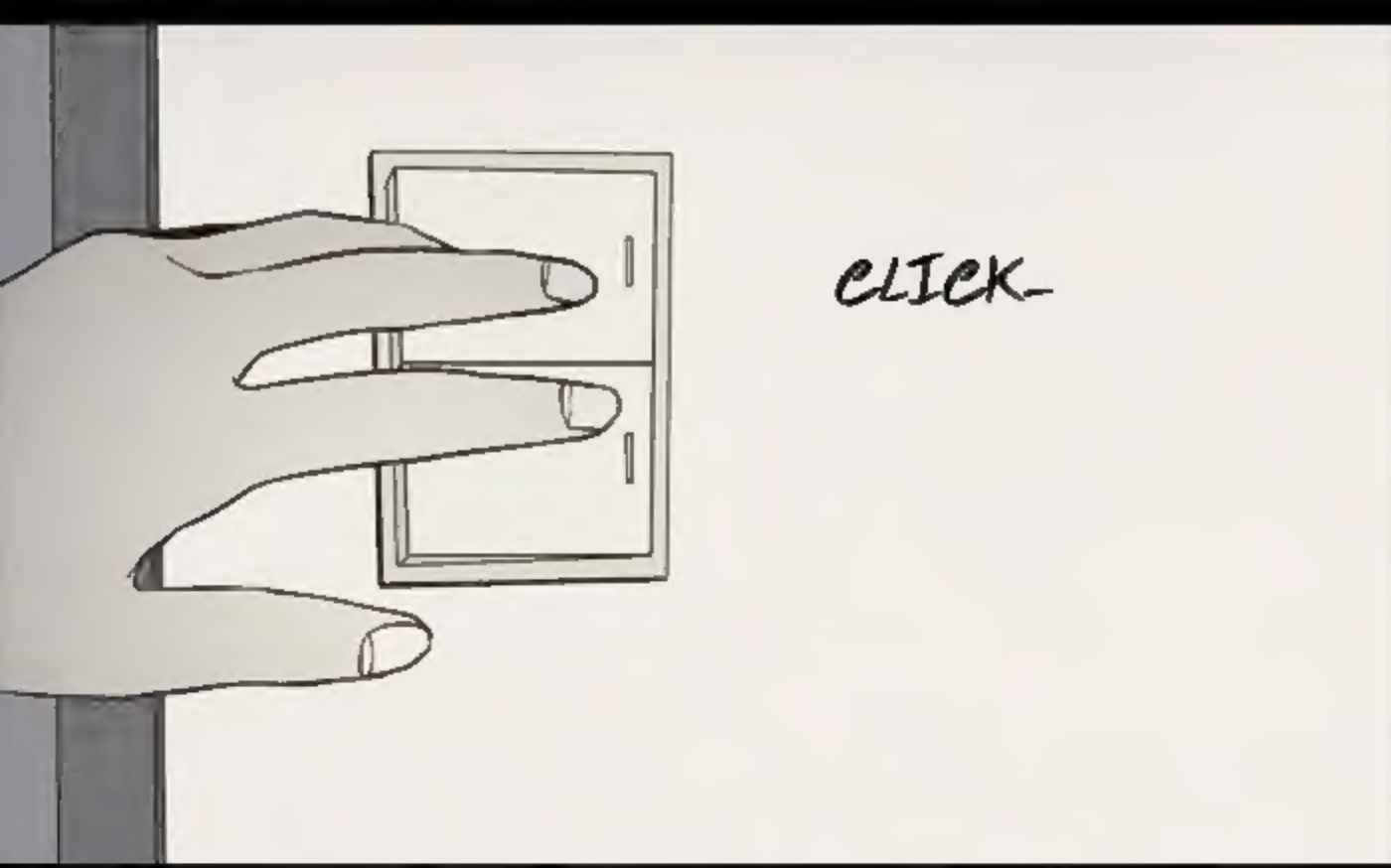
I DISCOVERED SOMETHING.

A MYSTERIOUS CELLPHONE.

FRIDAY
FORBIDDEN TALES
禁曜日

093. 116 (1)





IT WAS AN UNFAMILIAR MODEL
THAT I HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

A BLANK PHONE WITHOUT ANYTHING WRITTEN ON IT.

NOT ONLY THE MANUFACTURER'S NAME,
BUT EVEN THE MODEL OR
TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY.

WHAT IS THIS... IS IT JUST A TOY?
THE QUALITY IS TOO GOOD FOR IT TO JUST BE A TOY, THOUGH.

AS I OBSERVED IT FOR A WHILE,

SUDDENLY, I HAD THIS THOUGHT.

A LEAKED PHONE. A PROTOTYPE.

A TEST MODEL CREATED
BEFORE MASS PRODUCTION.

IF SO,
THEN THIS IS AN INCREDIBLE STROKE OF LUCK.
ALTHOUGH I COULDN'T BE SURE,

I HAD THIS SENSE THAT IT COULD
BE WORTH SOME MONEY.

THUMP

LIKE COMPENSATION FOR RETURNING IT TO THE MANUFACTURER.

OR A REWARD FOR HANDING IT OVER TO THE PRESS.

OR MAYBE I COULD SELL IT TO A COMPETITOR.

I WAS EXCITED. THIS IS A GIFT.

A COINCIDENTAL GIFT FOR MY TOUGH LIFE SURVIVING ON A PART-TIME JOB.

DOES IT TURN ON?

BEEP-

I TRIED PRESSING SOMETHING THAT LOOKED LIKE A POWER BUTTON.

I'M SURE I'LL BE ABLE TO FIND OUT SOMETHING IF I TURN IT ON, IF IT TURNS ON.

DING~
WARNING : ONLY USE IN DUSTPROOF FACILITIES.
WILL GET DISCARDED IF CONTAMINATED.
OH! IT WORKS! IT TURNED ON!

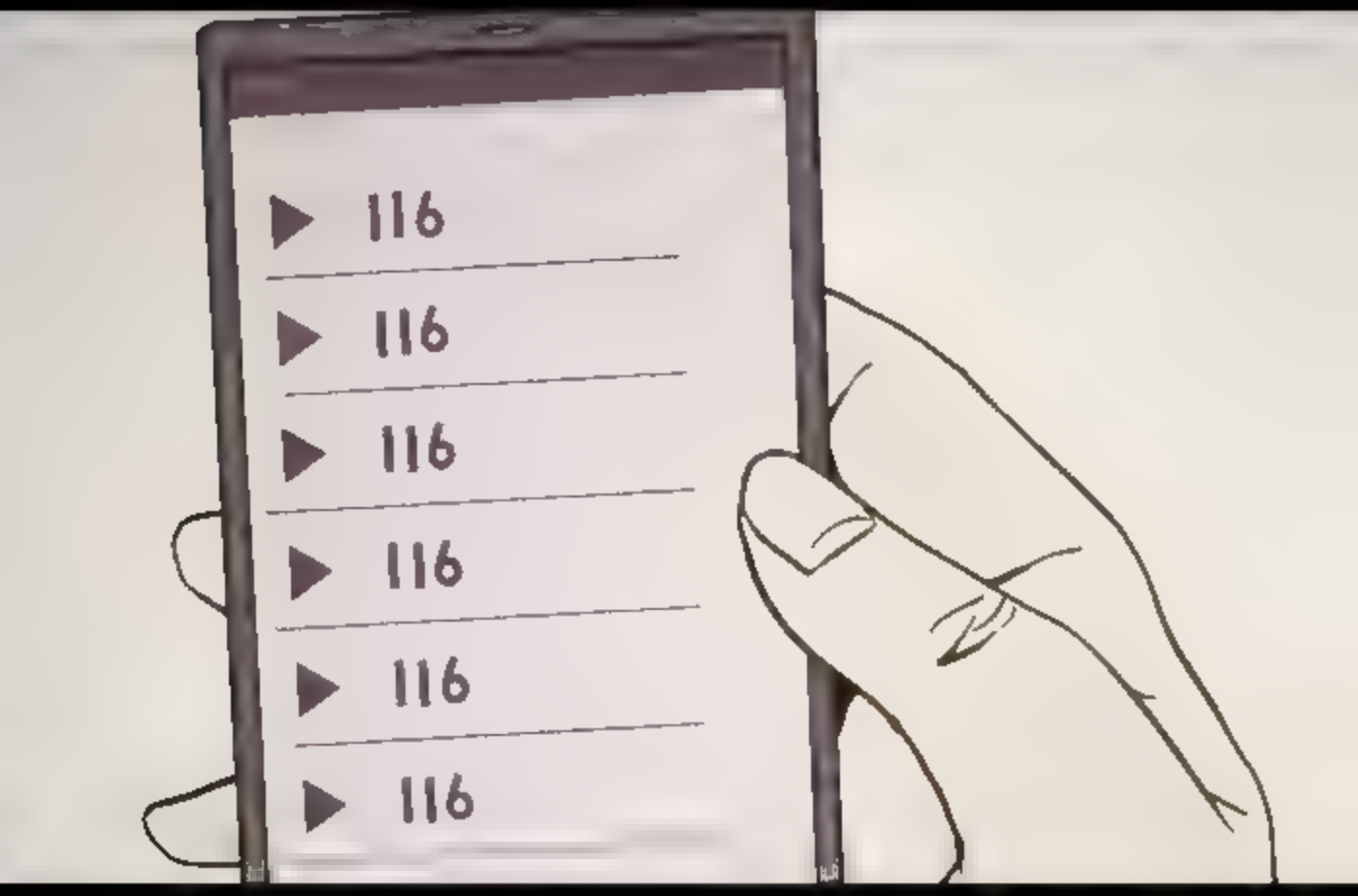
A WARNING MESSAGE GREETED ME WHICH SEEMED LIKE THE KIND OF THING YOU WOULD SEE IN A PLACE LIKE A SEMICONDUCTOR FACTORY.

I GRADUALLY THOUGHT THAT MY PREDICTION WAS CORRECT. I GOT MORE AND MORE EXCITED.

IT WAS IN MINT CONDITION, WITHOUT HARDLY ANY FUNCTIONS OR APPS.

IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN IN THE MIDDLE OF TESTING FOR CALL QUALITY.

THERE WAS A STRANGE LIST OF CALLS.


116
116
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116?

111 IS FOR REPORTING NORTH KOREAN SPIES,
112 IS FOR REPORTING CRIMES,
114 IS THE PHONE NUMBER DIRECTORY...

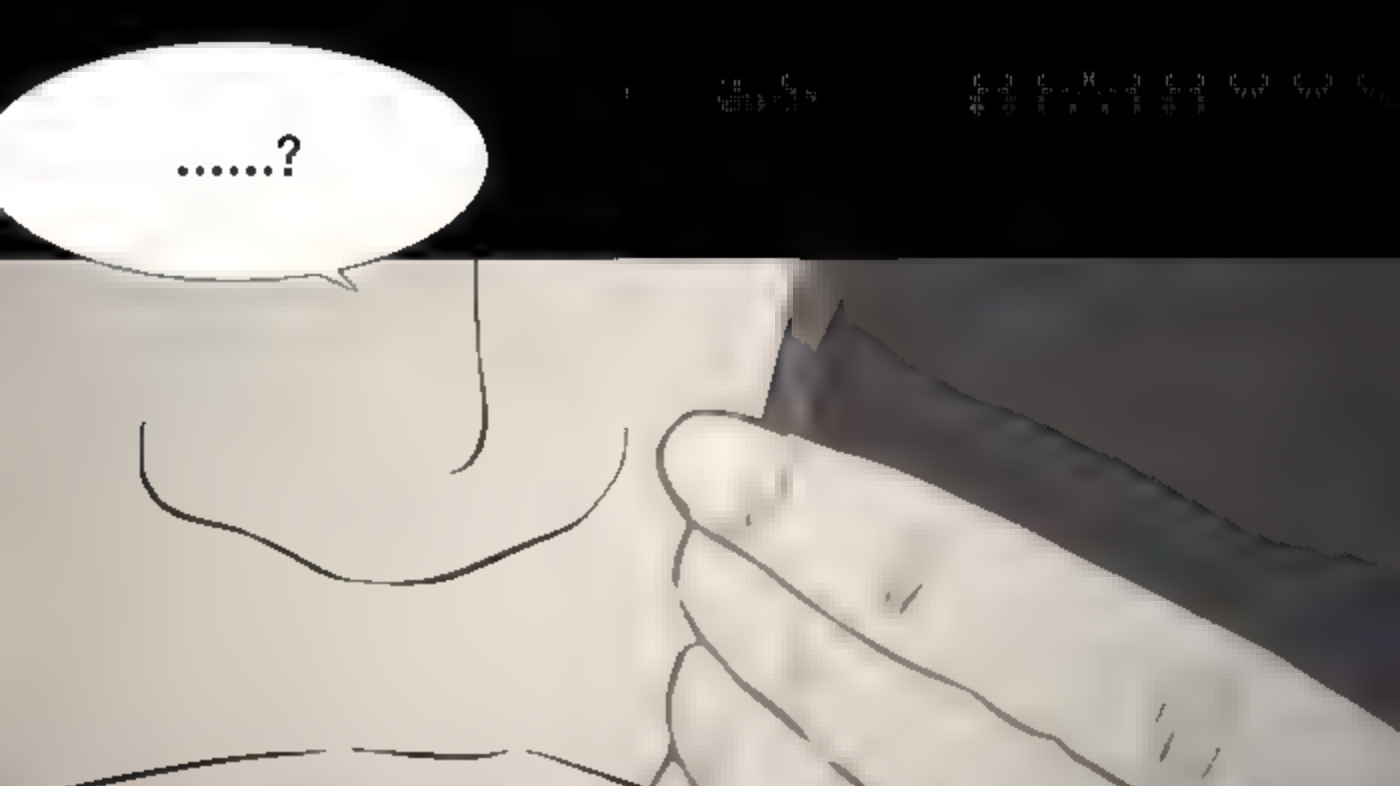
IT LOOKED LIKE IT COULD BE AN EXTENSION.

FOR NOW, I PRESSED IT TO CHECK.

ALL I COULD HEAR WAS A SIMPLE BEEPING SOUND.

AND

THAT WAS THE END OF THE CALL.



116 IS A SERVICE
THAT TELLS YOU THE CURRENT TIME.
I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THE REASON.

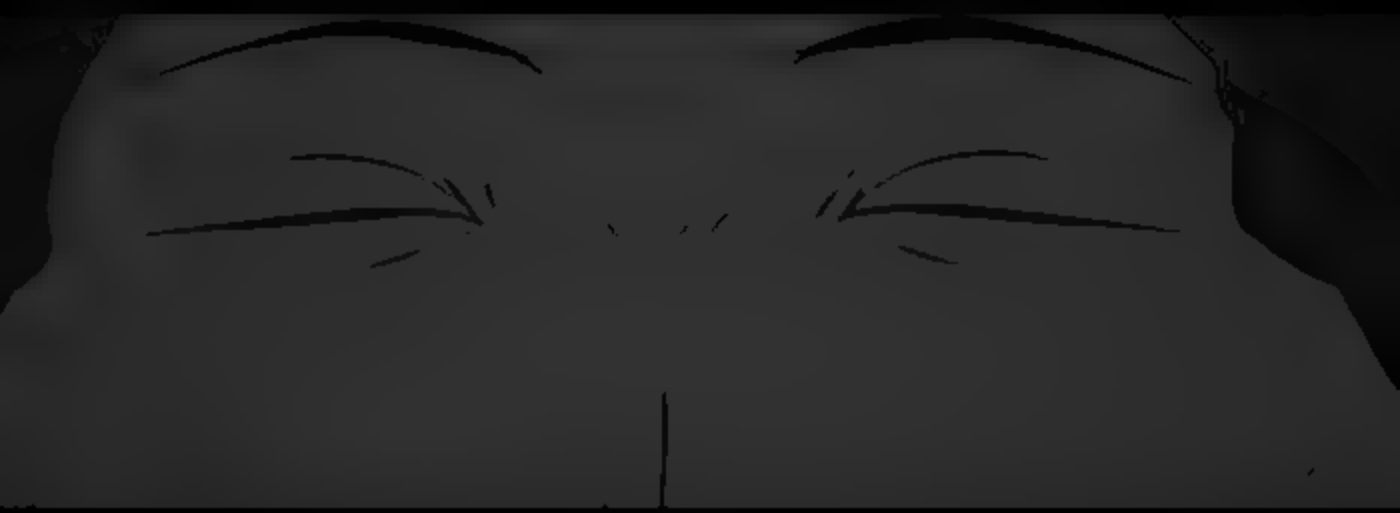
WHY DID THEY ONLY DIAL 116 SO MANY TIMES?
I WAS ACTUALLY EVEN MORE SURPRISED
THAT THERE WAS STILL SUCH
A SERVICE IN TODAY'S WORLD.

I FIGURED THAT THEY PROBABLY WANTED TO TEST WHETHER THE TIME WAS RIGHT SINCE IT'S A DEVICE UNDER DEVELOPMENT. I WAS SURE OF IT.

ALTHOUGH IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR ME TO REALIZE THAT THIS CONVICTION WAS FALSE.

TOMORROW'S SATURDAY, SO I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT WHAT TO DO WITH THIS BY MONDAY...

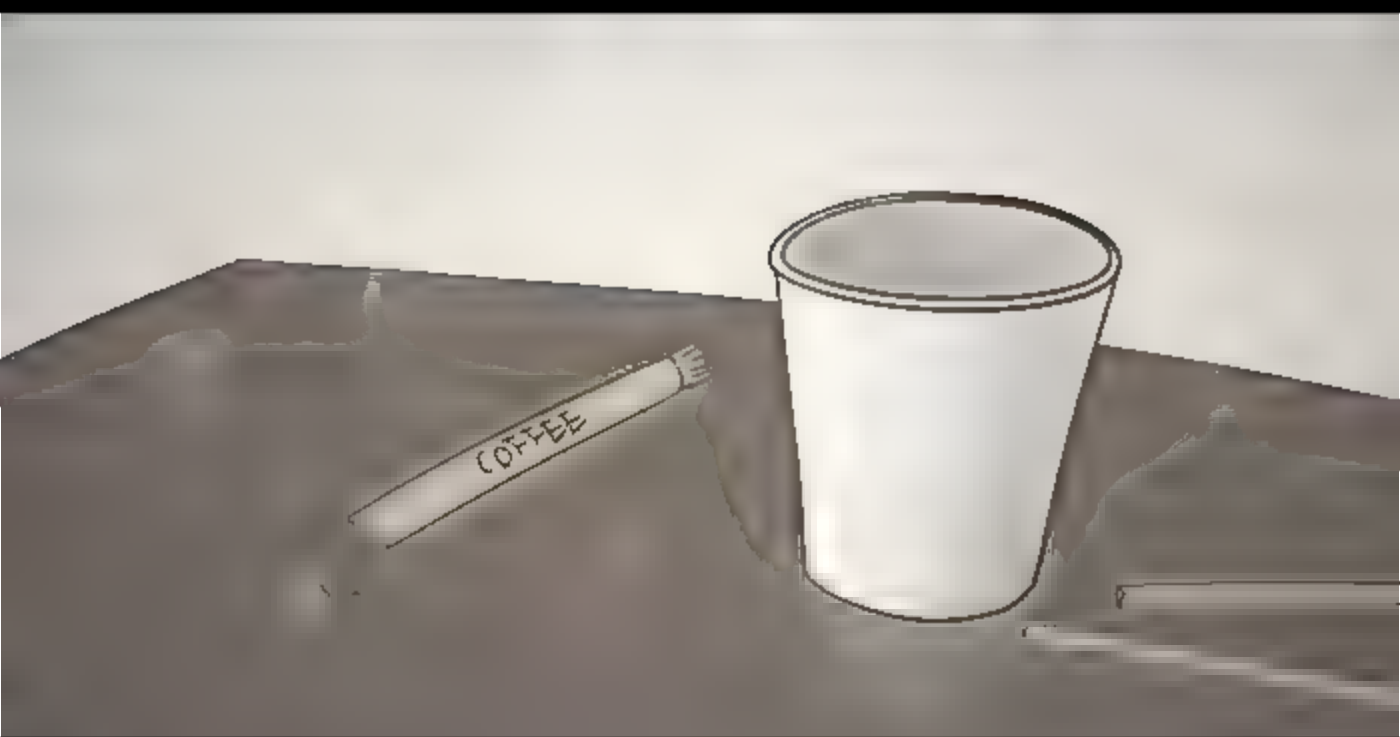
THINKING THAT,



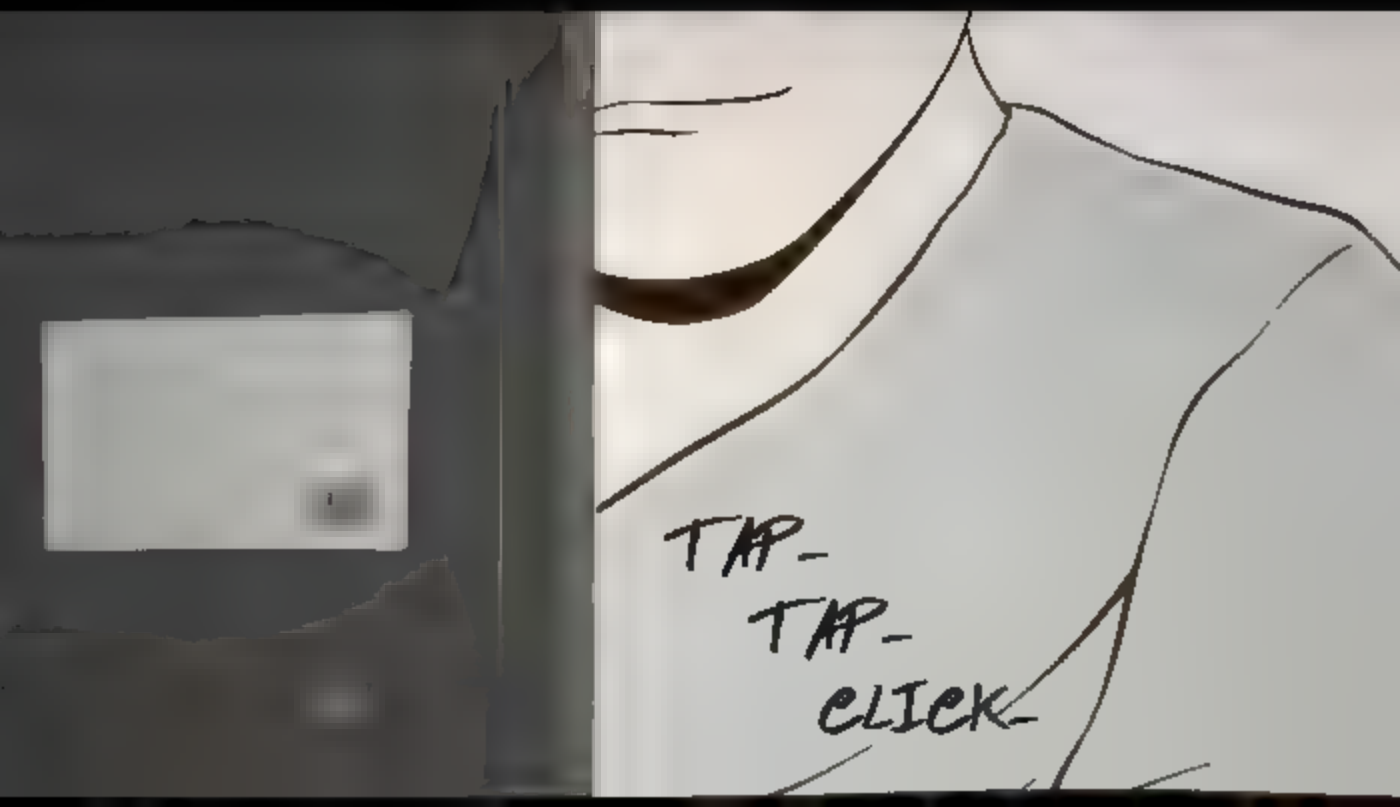
I FELL ASLEEP.

IT WAS A BRIGHT DAY.. I SLEPT IN,
AND ATE A LATE BREAKFAST.

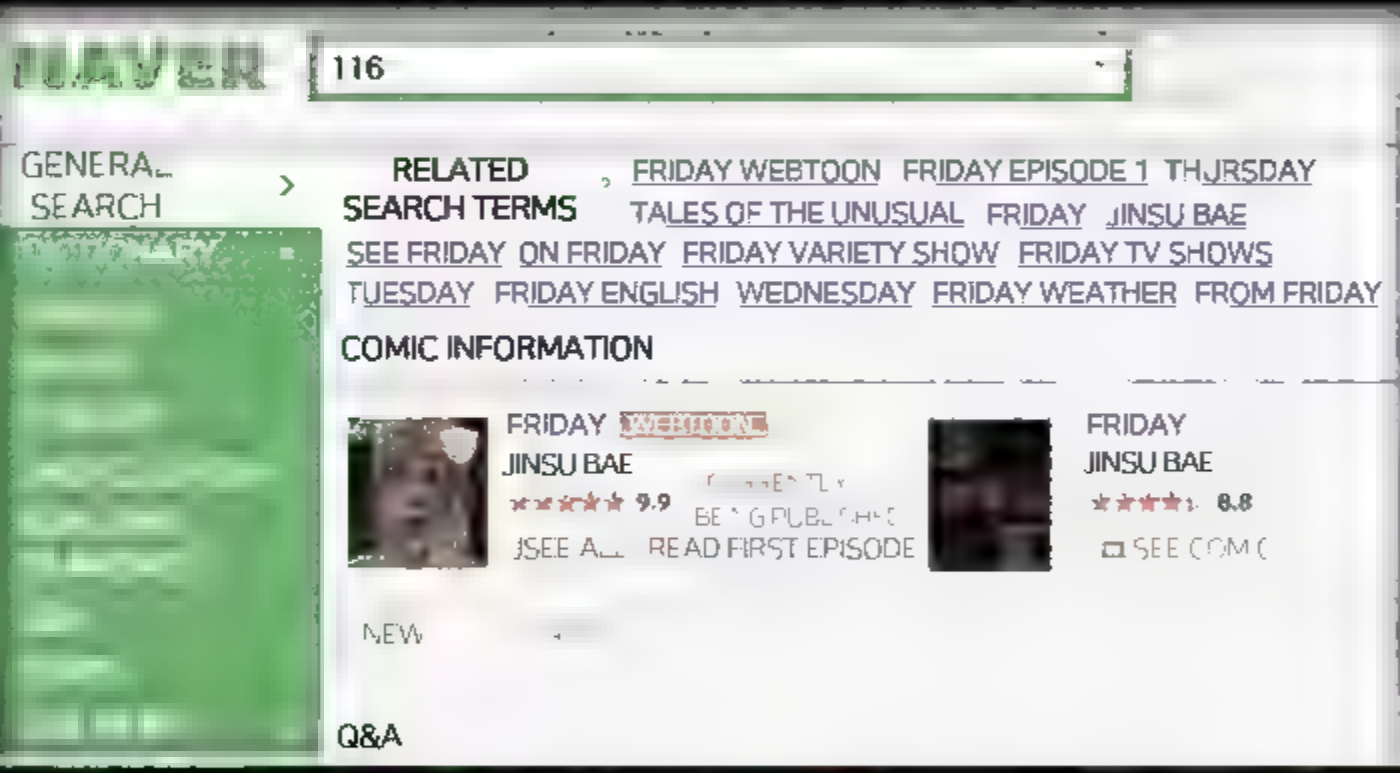
BUT I WAS A BIT HAPPIER THAN OTHER DAYS.



I STARTED THE DAY FEELING EXCITED
AS I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT TO DO
WITH THIS LEAKED PHONE.



FOR A WHILE, I SEARCHED KEYWORDS LIKE 'LEAKED PHONE,' 'PROTOTYPE,' AND 'REWARD.'

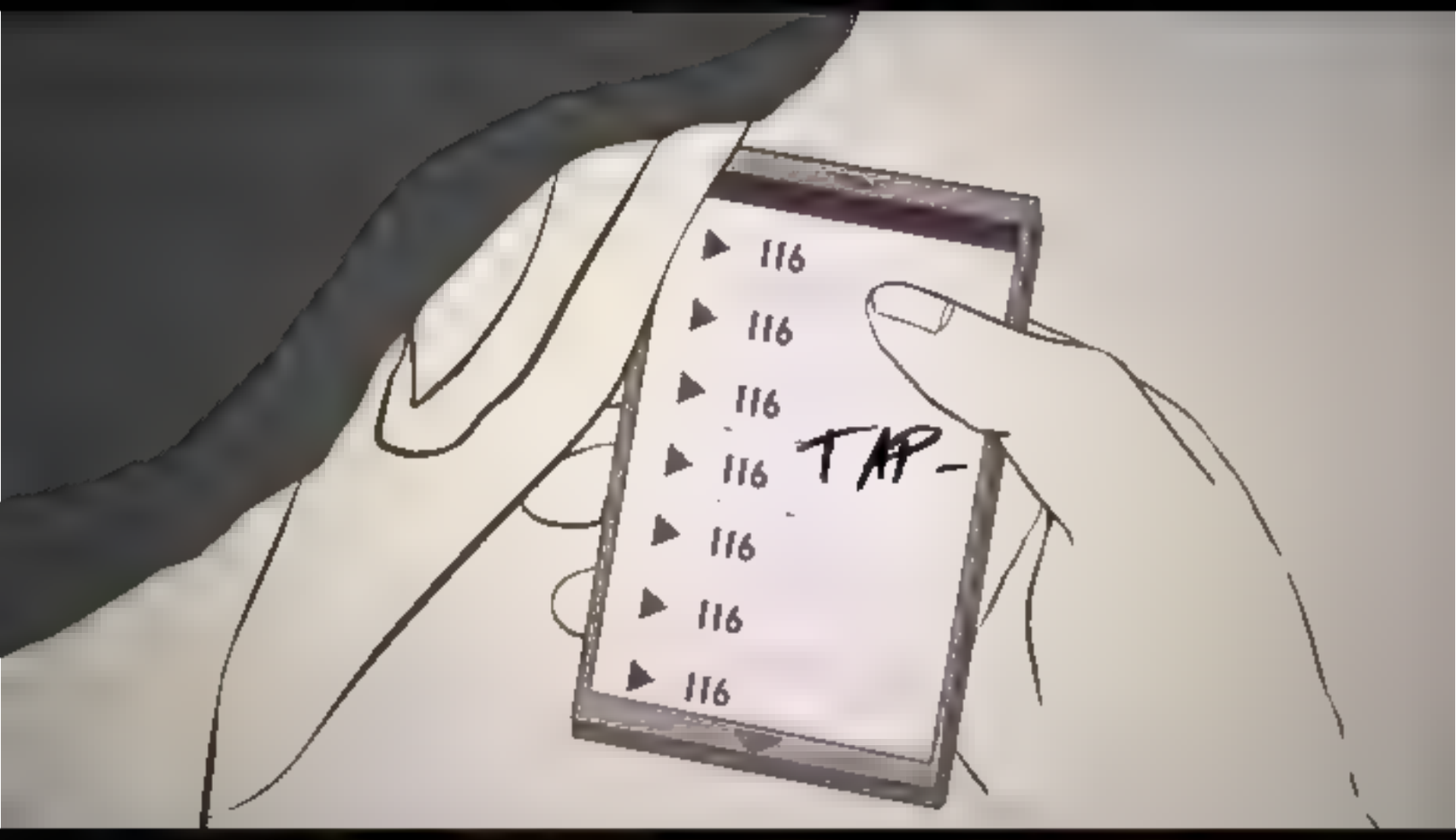


OUT OF CURIOSITY,
I TRIED SEARCHING 116 TOO.

BUSAN 120 CALL CENTER	051-120	BUSAN CAL
PHONE NUMBER DIRECTORY	114	K
WORLD CLOCK	116	K
DAILY WEATHER	131	KOREA METEO
OSTAL SERVICE CIVIL COMPLAINS	1588-1300	KOREA
TOURIST INFORMATION	1330	KOREA TO
TRAFFIC INFORMATION	1333	MINISTRY
ANTI-BULLYING HOTLINE	117	EMERGENCY H

THE CURRENT TIME IS 11:21:40 P.M.
IT DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT, THOUGH.

IT WAS STRANGE.
WASN'T 116 AN INDEPENDENT SERVICE
UNRELATED TO THE PHONE MANUFACTURER?



THEN SHOULDN'T THE SAME SERVICE BE PROVIDED NO MATTER WHO CALLS FROM WHATEVER PHONE?

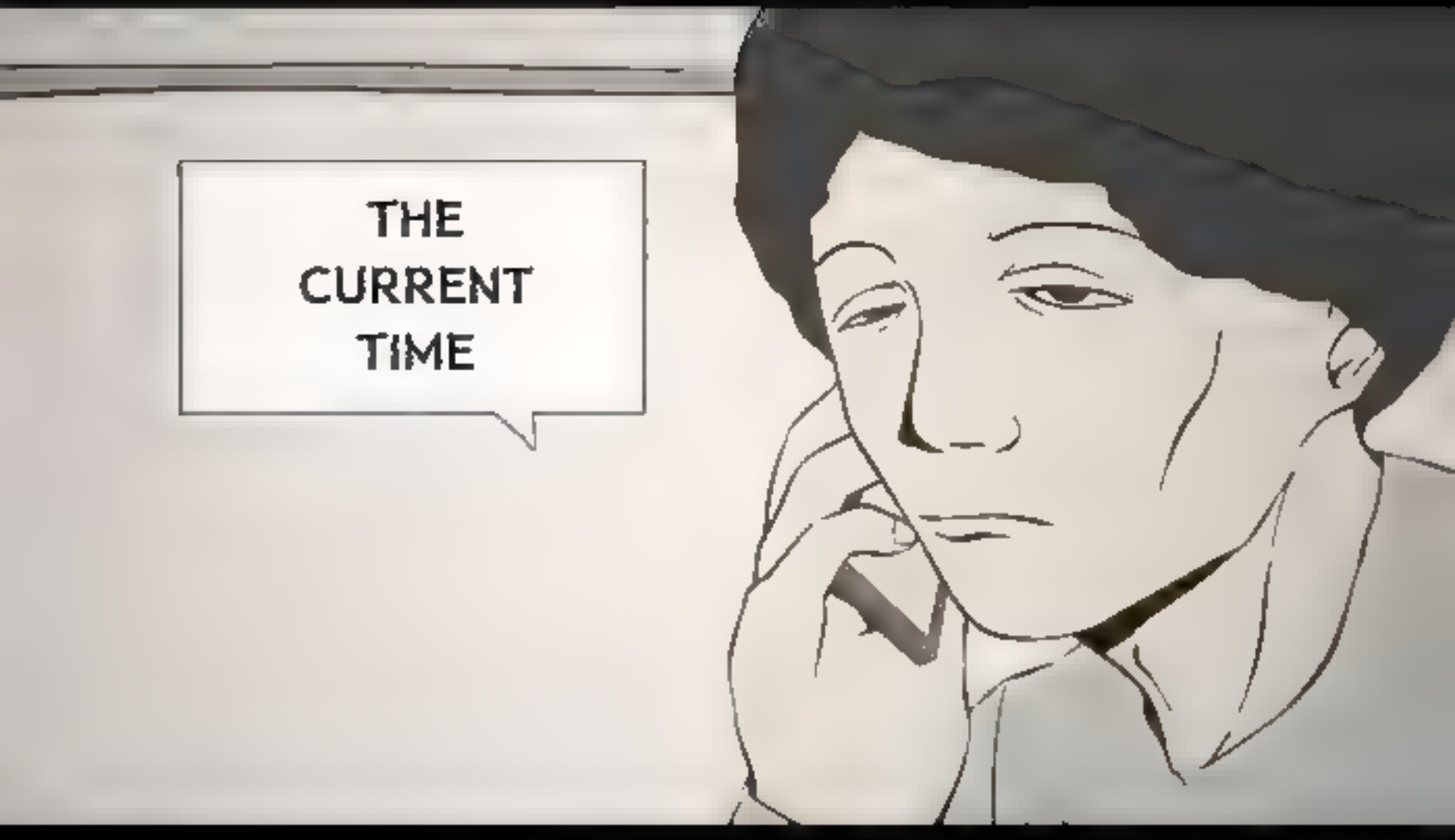
THINKING IT WAS STRANGE, I TRIED PUSHING 116 AGAIN.

BEEP-

BEEP-

BEEP-

BEEP-


THE
CURRENT
TIME

IS 11:21:40 P.M.
HUH?
WHAT'S IT TALKING ABOUT? IT'S STILL MORNING....

THE MOMENT THAT I THOUGHT THAT,

THE WORLD WENT DARK.

AND NIGHT TIME RETURNED.

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